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DOVER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1960

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C.F. Lynch, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

J.A. Kelly, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

W.O. Armstrong, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Assistant Public Health Inspector:

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Clerical Assistants:

Miss D.Baldwin
Miss M. Miles (August-Dec)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

BROOK HOUSE,

DOVER.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Dover Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Rural District for the year 1960.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population was 12,900 which is an increase of 240 on the figure for the previous year.

The birth rate corrected for age and sex distribution was 18.4 per 1,000 of the population and is 1.1 higher than in the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 17.1.

The death rate also corrected for comparative purposes was 9.4 per 1,000 of the population and is 0.8 per 1,000 less than in 1959. The rate for England and Wales was 11.5.

Infant mortality on the other hand rose to 56.6 per 1,000 live births which is 19.5 above that for the previous year and very much higher than the rate for England and Wales which was 21.7.

The actual number of infant deaths was 12 and although considerable fluctuation in the rate for a small area can occur without special significance the Rural District rate for 1960 can only be regarded as excessively high. Only 3 of the children were over the age of 1 month, congenital conditions being prominent causes of death. An almost equally prominent cause, however, was acute respiratory infection.

Notifications of infectious disease, excluding tuberculosis, were more than in 1959.

In addition to Measles, other common infections showing an increase were Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever though actual numbers were small. There were fewer new cases of tuberculosis and there was only one death from this disease.

During the year the Council's original 5 year programme of Slum Clearance was completed. A further survey, however, has shown many substandard houses, which were excluded from the original scheme, to have deteriorated to such an extent as to warrant their inclusion in a further programme to be carried out over the next 4 or 5 years.

I have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support throughout the year and the Senior Public Health Inspector for his co-operation in the preparation of this Report.

I have the honour to be,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C.F. Lynch.

Medical Officer of Health.

S E C T I O N A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The district is bounded roughly as follows:- On the North by the Rural Districts of Bridge-Blean and Eastry and the Borough of Deal; on the East by the sea; on the South by the Borough of Dover, the sea and the Borough of Folkestone, and on the West by the Rural Districts of Elham and Bridge-Blean.

The following Civil Parishes are situated within the boundary:-

Alkham, Capel-le-Ferne, Coldred, Denton, Guston, Hougham, East Langdon, West Langdon, Lydden, Ringwould, Shepherdswell, St. Margaret's, Temple Ewell with River, Whitfield, Wootton.

Area (including inland water), 25,780 acres.

Population: (a) Estimated mid-year Home population 12,900

(b) 1951 Census figures 10,504

(NOTE: All rates are calculated on the Registrar General's estimated mid-year Home Population of 12,900).

Number of Dwellings, 3,687

Rateable Value, £183,780

Sum represented by a 1d. rate, £738

Density of population - Persons per acre, 0.5.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

The following statistics are compiled from the available local information.

The figures for the births and deaths which follow are those finalised by correction for inward and outward transfers, while the population figure upon which the various rates are based is the estimated home population at 30th June, 1960, and includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area. For each Authority's area the Registrar General issues annual Area comparability factors for use with crude birth and death rates; the factors contain adjustments for boundary changes and make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole, while the death rate factor has in addition been adjusted specifically to take account of the presence of any residential institutions in each area.

1. Births:

(a) Registered Live Births:-

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	101	105	206
Illegitimate	1	5	6
	102	110	212

Comparability Factor = 1.12

Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	16.43
Crude Legitimate Live Births per 1,000 estimated population	16.00
Crude Illegitimate Live Births per 1,000 estimated population	0.43
Adjusted Live Birth Rate for comparative purposes	18.40

(b) Stillbirths:-

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	1	2	3

Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths) 13.95

2. Deaths:

	Male	Female	Total
Registered	60	75	135

Comparability Factor = 0.90

Crude death rate per 1,000 population	10.465
Adjusted for comparative purposes	9.42

3. Infant Mortality: Deaths under 1 year:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	6	6	12
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	6	6	12

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births 56.6

4. Specially Recorded Deaths:

Measles (all ages)	-
Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-
Cancer (all ages)	23

Rate per 1,000 Home Population

	Dover Rural District	England and Wales
(i) Lungs and bronchus	0.310	0.481
(ii) Other	1.473	1.676

5. Causes of Death in 1960: and Age Groups:

Causes of Death:	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	8	14
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	1	1
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	13	16
Coronary disease, angina	11	8	19
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	1
Other heart diseases	3	14	17
Other circulatory disease	7	5	12
Pneumonia	7	6	13
Bronchitis	3	2	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Congenital malformations	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	8	14
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	2	1	3
	60	75	135

Age Groups in which Deaths occurred

	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 year	6	6	12
5 - 14 years	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	1	1	2
25 - 44 years	1	1	2
45 - 64 years	9	12	21
65 - 74 years	18	11	29
75 years and over	25	44	69
	60	75	135

6. Comparative Rates:

	Dover Rural District 1959 (per 1,000 Home Population)	Dover Rural District 1960 (per 1,000 Home Population)	England and Wales 1960
Births:			
Live Births Crude	14.93	16.43	17.1
Live Births Adjusted	17.32	18.40	-
Still Births	0.95	0.23	0.34
Deaths:			
Crude	11.61	10.465	11.5
Adjusted	10.22	9.42	-
Infant Deaths: (Per 1,000 Live Births):			
All causes under 1 year	37.04 (Deaths 7)	56.6 (Deaths 12)	21.7
Maternal Mortality: (Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births):			
All causes	-	-	0.39

S E C T I O N B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

Clinical material for examination may be submitted to the Local Hospital's Laboratory Service as well as to the Public Health Laboratory at Maidstone where all routine examinations of samples of milk, water, etc., are carried out.

Hospitals

There are no hospitals situated within the Rural District but three hospitals in the Borough of Dover, which are administered by the South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, provide appropriate facilities for general medical, surgical, maternity and infectious cases.

St. Augustine's Nursing Home, Kearsney, a privately run Home, admits medical, surgical and maternity cases.

Nursing and Midwifery Services

The Kent County Council as the administrative Authority responsible, provides these services in the Rural area, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following information on the work of the services during 1960:-

(a)	Number of Home Nurses working in district	5
	Number of Patients attended	257
	Number of attendances (including casual visits)	6,339
(b)	Number of Midwives working in district	6
	Number of births attended	134

Clinics and Welfare Centres

The County Council as the Local Health and Education Authority provides various specialist and consultant services for expectant and nursing mothers, infants, toddlers and children of school age.

The Regional Hospital Board also provides local clinic services including facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis and of venereal disease.

S E C T I O N C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

PARISH	NO. HOUSES	NO. PERSONS	MAINS WATER DIRECT TO HOUSE	REMARKS
Alkham	195	610	176	19 wells and/or rainwater tanks.
Capel	492	1,576	472	20 wells and/or rainwater tanks.
Coldred	48	178	48	
Denton	51	178	51	
Guston	81	287	81	
Hougham	110	388	107	3 wells and/or rainwater tanks.
Langdon (East)	112	382	112	
Langdon (West)	21	84	21	
Lydden	174	649	167	7 wells and/or rainwater tanks.
Ringwould	522	1,786	522	
St. Margarets	576	1,928	575	1 well and/or rainwater tank.
Shepherdswell	374	1,284	374	
Temple Ewell with River	398	1,374	398	
Whitfield	480	2,014	479	1 well and/or rainwater tank.
Wootton	53	182	50	3 wells and/or rainwater tanks.

Kingsdown - included with Ringwould.

Martin, Martin Mill - included with Langdon (East).

NOTE: There are no houses provided with external standpipes only.

Over 98% of the houses in the Rural District are supplied from the public mains. Of the fifteen parishes in the district thirteen are supplied by the Mid Kent Water Company and two by the Folkestone and District Water Company.

Seven samples of water were taken from the mains supply, and all of these proved to be highly satisfactory. Four samples of mains water were also taken after storage in a tank, all of these proved to be satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage

There are two main sewerage systems in operation in the area, serving part of Temple Ewell with River and Capel-le-Ferne, otherwise sewage is disposed of by means of cesspools, septic tanks, pail closets and chemical closets.

Work was commenced on the Whitfield and Guston (part) sewerage scheme.

Number of houses on main drainage	652
Number of houses on cesspools and septic tanks	2,746
Number of pail and chemical closets	289

Scavenging

The collection and removal of domestic refuse, the emptying of cesspools and collection of pails has been carried out by direct labour, and has worked very satisfactorily.

Salvage

This is under the supervision of the Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector who reports on the year's work as follows :-

Weights of material sold	98 tons 6 cwts. 3 qrs.
Amount received for the material	£779 13s. 4d.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Number of inspections made during the year	3,730
Drainage:	
Reconstructed	35
Cesspools:	
Emptied	2,342

Factories Act, 1937

(i) Registered Factories:

With mechanical power	20
Without mechanical power	16
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	12
	48

(ii) Inspections:

Premises	Inspections	No. of written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	43	1	-
Factories without mechanical power	21	-	-
Other premises	30	-	-
	94	1	-

(iii) Defects:

	Number of Defects				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	-	1	-
Sanitary Conveniences: Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
	3	3	-	1	-

Verminous Premises

There were no reports of verminous premises.

Destruction of Rats and Mice

Gassing, trapping and poisoning are carried out by a full-time Rodent Operator. Regular surveys of the area have been made during the year.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year:

Number of infestations found and treatments carried out:	
Rats, Major	8
Rats, Minor	106
Mice, Major	-
Mice, Minor	14
Estimated Kill:	
Rats	1071
Mice	80
Number of bodies found:	
Rats	596
Mice	36

Camping Sites

There are nine sites licensed in the district for the summer months: viz Capel-le-Ferne five; Hougham two; Martin Mill one, Whitfield one. Two sites at Capel-le-Ferne are licensed for a total of twenty two caravans for the winter months. These sites are kept under regular supervision.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 came into force on the 29th August, 1960. The Model Standards were generally adopted. Visits were made to all caravan sites in the area and the owners advised regarding works necessary to bring their sites up to the standard.

SECTION D

HOUSING

During the year thirteen unfit houses were dealt with under the Housing Act, 1957. This completed the Council's origina programme of Slum Clearance which was begun in 1955.

A further survey in accordance with Circular No. 2/60 of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government indicates that there were still approximately 76 unfit or potentially unfit houses requiring to be dealt with under the Housing Act in the next five years and a further programme was submitted to the Ministry accordingly.

Altogether 93 houses were inspected for housing defects during the year.

In connection with discretionary improvement grants, nineteen schemes for improvement were submitted to the Council and eighteen schemes were approved and the Council's offer of grant accepted by the applicants. Total costs on these schemes amounted to £12,614 and the costs on which grants were made amounted to £8,066, the grants amounted to £4,033. Twenty two schemes were completed during the year.

Thirteen schemes were submitted to the Council for standard improvement grants, ten of these were approved and in nine cases the Council's offer of grant accepted by the applicants. The maximum grant permitted on these nine schemes amounted to £1,225.

Ninety six new houses were completed by private enterprise and forty nine were under construction at the end of the year.

Twenty six old people's bungalows and two houses were built by the Council during the year, and ten old people's bungalows and twelve houses were in course of erection at the end of the year.

SECTION E

INSPECTIONS AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk

During the year regular visits were made to all registered premises:

(a) Number of Registered Distributors	6
(b) Number of Registered Dairies	1

The following licences were granted by the Dover Rural District Council under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949 - 1953.

Dealer's Pasteurised	19
Dealer's Tuberculin Tested	18
Supplementary Pasteurised	5
Supplementary Tuberculin Tested	5

Five Pasteurised and four Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) milk samples were taken and found to be satisfactory. Two samples of raw milk were also taken and found to be satisfactory.

Shops Act, 1950

Regular inspections of all shops were made, and any necessary instructions given in regard to the requirements of the Act.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Under Section 16 (1) (a) of the above Act, forty four premises are registered for the sale of ice cream, and under Section 16 (1) (b) four premises are registered. The type of premises registered under Section 16 (1) (a) are - Cafes 4; Shops 31; Camps 4; Public Houses 4; N.A.A.F.I. 1; and under Section 16 (1) (b) - Cafe 1; Shops 2; Butchers Shop 1.

Seven samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, and the results were -

Grade 1 - 3
Grade 11 - 4

Fifty seven visits were made during the year to registered food premises and regular visits were made to other food premises and food shops in the district. The general standard was satisfactory and no formal action had to be taken.

Foodstuffs condemned during 1960

Cooked Gammon Ham - 6 lbs.

All food condemned is surrendered to the Public Health Inspector and removed to one of the Council's refuse tips where it is buried.

The shops now return most unsound foodstuffs to the wholesaler without calling in the Local Authority, which accounts for the small amount condemned during the year.

Food Poisoning

There were no confirmed cases of food poisoning during the year.

The Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

All licensed premises were inspected during the year, and conditions were generally found to be satisfactory.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) notified during 1960 - By Age Groups (Corrected).

	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia
Age unknown	-	1	-	-	-
Under 1 year	2	-	-	-	-
1 - 2 years	1	4	2	-	1
2 - 3 years	1	9	1	-	-
3 - 4 years	3	14	-	-	-
4 - 5 years	5	9	1	1	-
5 - 10 years	3	34	1	5	1
10 - 15 years	1	-	1	2	-
15 - 20 years	-	-	1	-	-
20 - 35 years	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 years	-	-	-	-	1
45 - 65 years	-	-	1	-	-
65 years and upwards	-	-	-	-	1
	16	71	8	8	4
Admitted to hospital	-	1	-	-	1
Notification Rates per 1,000 Home Population Dover Rural District	1.24	5.5	0.62	0.62	0.31
England and Wales	1.268	3.48	0.946	0.703	0.32

2. Immunisation and Vaccination:

The schemes for Whooping Cough and Diptheria immunisation and Smallpox and Poliomyelitis vaccination continued under the administration of the Kent County Council and the following statistics for 1960 are made available by the courtesy of the County Medical Officer:-

(a) Whooping Cough Immunisation:

150 children received primary Whooping Cough immunisation.

(b) Diptheria Immunisation:

Number of children resident in the Rural District of Dover, who received:-

(a) Primary Inoculations 150
(b) Reinforcing Inoculations 96

Number of children under the age of 15 years on the 31st December, 1960, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date:-

	Under 5 years	From 5 - 15 years	Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1956-1960	531	659	1,190
1955 or earlier	-	987	987

(c) Smallpox Vaccination:

Vaccination against smallpox recorded in the Rural District of Dover:-

	Age at 31st December, 1960:				
	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	15 and over	Total
Number vaccinated	49	66	5	3	123
Number re-vaccinated	-	1	-	1	2

(d) Poliomyelitis Vaccination:

Persons resident in the Dover Rural District who received injections against poliomyelitis:-

	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-10 years	11-14 years	15 years and over
Given two injections	15	104	10	4	222
Given third injection	-	146	100	72	326

3. Tuberculosis - Annual Statement of Cases of Tuberculosis:

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
(a) Number of cases of tuberculosis on Register as at 1st January, 1960.	57	50	17	18
(b) Number of Cases notified under Regulations of 1952 for first time during the year.	2	2	1	-
(c) Restored to Register	-	-	-	-
(d) Added to Register otherwise than by formal notification	1	5	-	-
(e) Cases removed from Register during the year including recoveries or deaths (excluding deaths of unnotified cases)	6	8	1	1
(f) Cases on Register at end of 1960.	54	49	17	17

Deaths of un-notified cases of Tuberculosis: Nil

Analysis of New Cases of Tuberculosis Notified in 1960:

Age Group	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-
1 - 2 years	-	-	-	-
3 - 4 years	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	-	1	-	-
25 - 44 years	-	-	1	-
45 - 64 years	1	1	-	-
65 years and over	1	-	-	-
Total	2	2	1	-

Analysis of Mortality in 1960 of Cases on Tuberculosis Register = One male aged 77 years - Pulmonary infection.

Mass Radiography:

In January, 1960, the Mass Radiography Unit held sessions in the parishes of Capel-le-Ferne, Whitfield and Temple Ewell and the following statistical information derived from the survey:-

Miniature Films Taken:	Male	135	
	Female	178	313
Active Tuberculosis:	Nil		
Inactive Tuberculosis:	Male	1	
	Female	2	3
Cancer of Lung:	Nil		

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925:

No action was necessary in regard to any tuberculous person employed in the milk trade.

Public Health Act, 1936: Section 172:

No action was necessary with regard to the compulsory removal of tuberculous patients to hospital during the year.

Disinfection:

The Rural District Council does not possess a disinfecting plant, and, where necessary, infected bedding and clothing is disinfected by arrangement with the Hospital Authority.

Number of premises disinfected - 2.

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